

Montgomery Council

For Immediate Release

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Statement by County Council President Michael Subin on Federal Decision to Fast-Track InterCounty Connector

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S E ""Moses wandered in the desert for 40 years. We've been waiting longer than that for the ICC.

"That's why Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta's decision this afternoon to put the InterCounty Connector on a list of six projects nationwide to be 'fast-tracked' is welcome news for area commuters stuck in unbearable traffic congestion.

"The County Council believes that the ICC is a critical part of a balanced transportation program to build new roads and expand mass transit options for County residents. It can and will be built in a way that will protect our environment and limit new development along its route.

"This fast-tracking means the project will still go through a rigorous examination by federal agencies concerned about the environment but it will move to the head of the line. That means we'll get the results sooner, deal with any concerns raised, and get construction going on this much-needed project that much sooner."

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